Annex to the letter dated 1 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Statement of the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in exercise of the right of reply to the remarks made by the Prime Minister of Mauritius in the general debate on 28 September 2013

The British Government maintains that the British Indian Ocean Territory is British, has been since 1814, and was never part of Mauritius before independence. It does not recognize the sovereignty claim of the Mauritian Government.

The British Government values its close and constructive cooperation with the Government of Mauritius on a wide range of issues, and would like this to include a more constructive dialogue on British Indian Ocean Territory.